Production of Minerals in Bihar

*458. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of minerals like iron ore and copper etc. have registered considerable fall during the last decade in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the present production of minerals in the State is lower than the production of these minerals in 1960;

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) what action Government propose to take to increase the minerals production in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c) Production of important minerals in Bihar State during 1960 and 1982 to 1992-1993 is shown in the enclosed statement [*See* Appendix CLXVIII, Annexure No. 57]

(d) and (e) Production of minerals has declined due to various reasons like depletion of reserves, decrease in demand, development of synthetic substitutes etc. However, efforts for mineral development, wherever possible, continue to be made.

Special vocational education for drop out girls

*459. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been an increase in the school drop outs in recent years;

(b) if so, what is the ratio of drop outs of girl students, belonging to S.C., S.T., S.E.B.C. and minority communities in proportion to their population;

(c) whether Government have any special programme to bring the drop outs within the orbit of the education system;

(d) whether Government are thinking of introducing special vocational education for such drop out children; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e) The drop-out rates over the years has shown fluctuations as indicated in the date below:—

Year	Drop out rates in percentage (for all communities)		
	CLASSES		
	I—V	I—VIII	I—X
1985-86	47.61	64.42	77.62
1986-87	48.60	64.90	76.94
1987-88	46.97	62.29	75.30
1988-89	47.93	65.40	75.3

According to the latest available data (for 1988-89) drop-out of rate of SC and ST girls was as follows :—

	SC Girls	ST Girls
Classes I—V	53.39	68.73
Classes I—VIII	73.60	81.40
Classes I—X	85.62	89.91

School drop-out rates are collected at such stage of education with reference to their enrolment and not in proportion to their population strength. Data is also not collected separately for S.E.B.C. and minority communities.

Some of the steps undertaken to increase retention in school system include:

— provision of incentives to socio-economically backward children such as free uniforms, free text-books, attendance scholarships, mid-day meals etc.

— provision of primary and upper primary schools within easy walking distance. At primary stage norm is to provide a primary school for a habitation of 300 population either with the habitation or upto a distance of 1 Km., In case of tribal desert and hilly areas norm is relaxed to a habitation with 200 population. At upper primary stage norm is to provide a middle school for a habitation with 500 population upto a distance of 3 Km.;

— provision of programmes of part time non-formal education for children who cannot attend whole day schools and children in habitations without schools;

— Improvement of school facilities under centrally sponsored scheme of OB;

— Micro-planning through a process of community participation and effective decentralisation of educational management to the village level;

— shifting emphasis on retention by monitoring number of children completing class V and Class VIII and devising programme to ensure that the minimum levels of learning are achieved by all children completing a stage of education;

— Adoption of target group oriented strategies and fixing of separate targets for access, participation and acievement for girls and SC/ST children.

A Centrally sponsored scheme is in operation to provide financial assistance to voluntary organisations for arranging short-term training programmes of vocational education preferably in backward/rural areas and particularly for girls of the age group 14-18 years who have dropped out of school before completing Class X.

सरकारी क्षेत्रों में नये इस्पात एककों की स्थापना

*460. श्री राम जेठमलानी :
डा० जिनेन्द्र कुमार जैन :

क्या इस्पात मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने इस आशय का कोई निर्णय लिया है कि 1997 तक सरकारी-क्षेत्र में कोई भी इस्पात उत्पादक इकाई स्थापित नहीं की जाएगी ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं और इस समय सरकारी क्षेत्र में कार्यरत इस्पात इकाइयों की अधिष्ठापित